

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION



Information Letter



FOR N. C. A. MEMBERS

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United Kingdom Food Regulations

The Department of Commerce again calls the attention of canners and exporters to the new food regulations in the United Kingdom, some of which are to go into effect on January 1, and others at later dates. In general, American products will without difficulty meet all the new requirements. Some difficulties have arisen, however, because English buyers refused to handle products which were in violation of the proposed regulations, as they feared such products would be left on their hands after the date the regulations became effective. This condition has lately arisen in connection with a shipment of fruits which contain traces of zinc. Ordinarily such products would have passed into commerce without difficulty, but deliveries are now being refused on account of the condition given above.

It is suggested that particular care be exercised at the present time in connection with shipments going forward to the United Kingdom so that no cause for official action can be found. Failure to meet the new requirements are quite likely to cause considerable difficulty, not only to the individual shipper of such products but to other American shippers into the same market.

The British food trade is reported to be trying to safeguard itself against prosecution by demanding that suppliers guarantee that their products conform to the regulations.

Duty on Canned Pimientos

The Association has just been advised that the Court of Customs Appeals has sustained the contention of the Govern-

ment in the case of *La Manna, Azema & Farnan vs. the U. S.* (Suit No. 2799) that canned pimientos, consisting of whole pimientos, peeled and cored, are properly classified as "whole pimientos" dutiable at 6c per lb. under paragraph 779 of the Tariff Act.

Identification of Shipping Packages

At the request of the National Wholesale Grocers Association, the following item is brought to the attention of our members:

Complaints are frequently made regarding the failure of some manufacturers and producers properly to identify the contents of shipping cases of merchandise shipped to the wholesaler's warehouse. This means that goods are delivered either in unlabeled sacks, barrels or cartons, or else in packages insufficiently labeled so that rehandling for marking or stenciling is necessary by the wholesale grocer before the goods can properly be stored.

Proper and efficient warehousing requires that each shipping case received plainly show the kind of merchandise contained in the package, as well as the variety. For example, the commodity beans can readily be used for the purposes of illustration. There are a number of varieties of this product and its shipment in sacks branded merely "Beans" is not satisfactory to the wholesale grocer.

If sacks or containers are received either unlabeled or inadequately labeled, the purchaser is obviously compelled before storing the merchandise to go to the trouble and expense of so labeling each sack as properly to identify it. This can be eliminated with very little trouble if the manufacturer and producer clearly shows on the package the merchandise and variety contained therein. He can do this with more certainty and less expense at the time of original packing than can any jobber or dealer later. Incoming shipments properly marked would aid in checking freight classification and bills on incoming shipments, also permitting of proper classification on outbound shipments.

Research Work Commended

"What Price Progress," by Hugh Farrell, published this year for the Chemical Foundation of New York, is an interesting survey of the relation of scientific research to industrial progress.

On pages 216-222, Mr. Farrell makes special reference to the work of the canning industry, through the National Canners Association, in creating public confidence in canned foods through research.

To quote from page 217: "For a long time I was one of those who regarded canned goods taboo. I no longer feel that way about it. As a matter of fact, I am now convinced that, so far as the great bulk of the food we consume is concerned, the canned portions of it are purer and of better quality than most of the raw portions. This change in attitude is wholly due to the work that scientists in the employ of the canners and out have done in the investigation of the properties of canned foods and the changes they have brought about in the preparation and treatment of food for canning."

The study of the vitamin content in canned foods, causes and elimination of spoilage, and the prevention of black discoloration in corn are pointed out particularly as striking examples of the practical application of research to the industry.

Canned Foods Wanted by Army

The Quartermaster Section, General Intermediate Depot, Fort Mason, San Francisco, has advertised for bids to be received at that office not later than 11.00 A. M., January 3rd, 1927, covering certain canned foods to be delivered at San Francisco on or about February 10th, 1927, viz:

888	No.	2½	cans	apricots
1,752	No.	2	cans	lima beans
28,152	No.	2	cans	stringless beans
1,368	No.	2½	cans	sweet cherries
10,752	No.	2½	cans	lye hominy
9,744	No.	2	cans	assorted jam (apricot, blackberry, loganberry, plum)
2,832	No.	2½	cans	peaches (variety to be specified)
28,392	No.	2	cans	American green peas
15,312	No.	1	cans	salmon
5,988	No.	10	cans	sugar cane syrup
9,048	No.	2½	cans	pumpkin

All cans are required to be lacquered. Interested parties may secure copies of "Circular 27—56—Subs." from the Quartermaster's office at the above address.

Increase in Import Duties at Montevideo

The Montevideo, Uruguay, office of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, states that import duties on certain articles are increased ten per cent in order to meet the increased public instruction budget. Among the articles listed are the following: Dried figs, dried mushrooms, canned goods, tomato pastes and sauces, and sardines in oil.

Bulletin on Strawberries

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has published a new bulletin of interest to fruit canners entitled "Strawberry varieties in the United States," by George M. Darrow.

It is designated as Farmers Bulletin Number 1043, revised, and copies will be supplied without charge to our members on request, or may be secured from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, at five cents a copy.

Production of Tin Plate

According to the data collected by the Census Bureau in the biennial census of manufactures for 1925, 3,480,401,286 lbs. of tin plate valued at \$179,381,673 were manufactured in the United States during 1925. This indicates an increase of 10.2% in quantity and 16% in value, as compared with the production for 1923.

Car Loadings

For the week ending December 4th, the total revenue freight loaded amounted to 1,058,151 cars, according to the American Railway Association.

This was an increase of 37,312 cars over the corresponding week last year. The principal increase was in loadings of coal, which were the greatest ever recorded in any one week. There was a decrease in loadings of grain and miscellaneous freight.

Atlantic City Hotels

The Hotel Chelsea, Atlantic City has asked the Association to announce to its members that it will arrange to furnish accommodations on the European as well as the American plan and at the same rates for European plan as the other hotels.

Our announcement in Information Letter No. 188 regarding hotel reservations is modified to that extent.